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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

O'NEILL

Atty. Ref.: 36-1673

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

National Phase of: PCT/GB00/02768

International Filing Date: 19 July 2000

Filed: December 19, 2001

Examiner:

For: TELECOMMUNICATIONS ROUTING

* * * * *

December 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

This application is the US national phase of international application

PCT/GB00/02768 filed July 19, 2000 which designated the U.S. --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said second route characteristic does not apply to said first route.